

# Wine Spectator's

November 20, 2024

# Insider Weekly

A First Look at Our Editors' Most Exciting New Wines

## Aperitifs

California, France, Italy, New Zealand & Oregon

### Wine Pairings for a Thanksgiving Feast

With each November comes Thanksgiving, which means festivities, family, friends and food preparations. After all, the Thanksgiving meal is the cornerstone of the holiday. And with delectable food comes delicious wine-pairing opportunities. Start your search with this special Insider edition, which features fantastic wines for each moment of the holiday, from the start to the pumpkin pie-filled finish.

To kick things off, there are lighter white wines and bubbly, including a sleek Willamette Valley Chardonnay from Oregon's Résonance and a Sauvignon Blanc from New Zealand's Craggy Range. As for the sparklers, there's a rosé Champagne, a California brut and an extra brut from Italy's Trento region. All would make for an impressive start to the day.

For the main event, there's everything from California Pinot Noir to Châteauneuf-du-Pape to Burgundy, with plenty of delectable pairings for turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and all the other holiday fixings. Try pairing your bird with a Sonoma Zinfandel, or maybe serve roasted pork alongside a Barolo. When it comes to carrots, Brussels sprouts and other vegetables, up the game with a tasty Vouvray, German Riesling or Vermentino.

The vinous fun doesn't have to stop when the meal does. Once the leftovers are in the fridge, it's a great time to chat while enjoying a hearty red, like a Napa Cabernet, a Brunello di Montalcino or an Australian Shiraz. And when the sweets come out, match them with a Vin Santo from Tuscany or a Vintage Port. Plus, don't miss a chance to make your holiday extra special with one of the Hot Wines or the Value Pick in this week's edition, which add even more variety. Whichever wines you pick, we wish you a happy Thanksgiving!—*Collin Dreizen, assistant managing editor*



There are many diverse wines to enjoy with a Thanksgiving meal. (GMVozd/Getty Images)



### **BOLLINGER**

**Brut Rosé Champagne La Grande Année 2015**

**97 points | \$307 | Rosé / Sparkling**

Like a racing spinnaker, this is tightly trimmed yet voluminous in character. Toasty notes of roasted almond and vanilla wafer are deftly integrated with sun-dried black cherry, baked peach, blood orange sorbet and candied ginger flavors, all well-defined by racy acidity and a subtle streak of salinity. This is long and fragrant, with pain d'épices, graphite and tea rose notes playing on the finish. Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. Disgorged February 2024. Drink now through 2040. From France.—*A.N.*



### **FERRARI**

**Extra Brut Trento Giulio Ferrari Riserva del Fondatore 2012**

**94 points | \$190 | 50 cases imported | White / Sparkling**

A graceful sparker, with a fine, pointillism-like mousse, offering flavors of apricot, white cherry, green almond and toast, plus hints of preserved lemon, fresh porcini mushroom and dried herbs that dance across the palate. Shows depth and complexity without weight or overt richness, with a lingering, clean-cut tang of salinity on the finish. Disgorged 2023. Drink now through 2035. From Italy.—*A.N.*



### **ROEDERER ESTATE**

**Brut Anderson Valley L'Ermitage 2017**

**94 points | \$75 | 3,650 cases made | White / Sparkling**

Opulent yet detailed, with expressive pear and cherry flavors accented by roasted hazelnut, brioche and fresh ginger. Builds richness on the plush finish. Drink now through 2027. From California.—*T.F.*



### **CRAGGY RANGE**

**Sauvignon Blanc Martinborough Te Muna 2023**

**94 points | \$26 | 72,000 cases imported | White**

Fresh and precise, with lime, mango and passion fruit notes that are accented by crunchy sea salt, litsea oil, dried chamomile and fresh lemon zest on a mouthwatering, fleshy frame. Drink now. From New Zealand.—*M.W.*



### **RÉSONANCE**

**Chardonnay Willamette Valley 2022**

**94 points | \$40 | 2,034 cases made | White**

Sleek yet luxurious, this impressive white offers rich Asian pear, nectarine and lemon zest flavors that gather richness and flesh on the long finish. Drink now through 2026. From Oregon.—*T.F.*



### **DOMAINE DE LA SOLITUDE**

**Pessac-Léognan White 2022**

**93 points | \$28 | 1,000 cases made | White**

Bright and fresh, showing unadorned star fruit and yellow plum notes laced liberally with verbena and honeysuckle. A nice zing of chalk pierces through and adds length on the finish. Sémillon and Sauvignon Blanc. Drink now through 2029. From France.—*J.M.*



### **PROIDL**

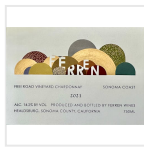
**Grüner Veltliner Kremstal Senftenberg  
Ried Pellingen Reserve 2022**

**93 points | \$65 | 240 cases imported |  
White**

An attractive version, with serious inner density to the apricot and sun tea flavors, flanked by white mocha and earth notes, plus a mineral concentration. Broad and mouth-filling, offering a cool minerality that moves through and expertly offsets the concentration. Chamomile and lemon thyme accents ring on the long finish. Drink now through 2030. From Austria.—*K.B.*

## **Wines for the Meal**

**Argentina, California, France, Germany, Italy & Spain**



### **FERREN**

**Chardonnay Sonoma Coast Frei Road  
Vineyard 2021**

**97 points | \$90 | 97 cases made | White**

This memorable Chardonnay starts with a juicy, succulent and silky core of Meyer lemon curd, apricot and ripe melon notes, offering oolong tea details, with hints of brown sugar and salted buttery pastry. The details keep coming, with accents of lemon thyme, dried pineapple and sweet grass, plus a whiff of Buddha's hand citron on the long, expressive and refreshing finish. Drink now through 2032. From California.—*M.W.*

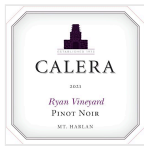


### **BARONE RICASOLI**

**Toscana Casalferro 2020**

**96 points | \$80 | 800 cases imported | Red**

This rich, pure red is generous in its flavors of black cherry, blackberry, plum, fruitcake, earth and spices. The tannins are well-integrated and overall this is harmonious and long, echoing the lush fruit and spice elements. This is all about elegance and finesse, making it approachable now. Merlot. Drink now through 2038. From Italy.—*B.S.*



### **CALERA**

**Pinot Noir Mount Harlan Ryan Vineyard  
2021**

**96 points | \$95 | 1,100 cases made | Red**

A packed red, with a core of mulled dark currant, black cherry and blackberry paste flavors that are dense yet defined, while singed anise, alder and warm earth notes fill in throughout. The rigid structure carries the finish, leaving a chalky, mouthwatering echo. With the fruit to match its matrix, this should be a beauty at its peak. Best from 2026 through 2040. From California.—*J.M.*



### **M. CHAPOUTIER**

**Châteauneuf-du-Pape Barbe Rac 2020**

**96 points | \$95 | 50 cases imported | Red**

Texturally stunning, with equal parts richness and grace, this offers a cascade of fig paste and cassis liqueur flavors layered atop iron and burned leaf notes. Round, broad-shouldered and warm, with perfect tension to match. Stretches out with smoke, orange peel acidity and talc-fine tannins. Delicious. Drink now through 2035. From France.—*K.B.*



### **FRATELLI ALESSANDRIA**

**Barolo San Lorenzo di Verduno 2019**

**95 points | \$95 | 150 cases imported | Red**

Expressive and silky in texture, with fragrant rose, cherry, raspberry, anise and mineral scents. Offering a subtle, underlying oak detail, this red is all about harmony and finesse, showing superb balance through to the lingering finish. Best from 2026 through 2045. From Italy.—*B.S.*

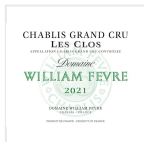


### **LOUIS LATOUR**

**Corton Clos de la Vigne au Saint 2022**

**95 points | \$210 | 150 cases imported | Red**

There's fine purity to the juicy, ripe cherry, raspberry, rose and rich earth aromas and flavors of this red. An underlying mineral component adds depth and dimension as this builds to the long, complex aftertaste. Harmony and elegance are its hallmarks, with a silky texture and excellent length. Best from 2027 through 2047. From France.—*B.S.*



### **WILLIAM FÈVRE**

**Chablis Les Clos Domaine 2021**

**95 points | \$250 | 170 cases imported | White**

There's plenty of volume in this Chablis, whose rich, round frame boasts aromas and flavors of peach, apple, lemon and flinty mineral. It's all about the combination of power, balance and intensity, with excellent length. Though enjoyable now, this is still very youthful. Drink now through 2033. From France.—*B.S.*



### **DOMAINE HUET**

**Vouvray Demi-Sec Clos du Bourg 2023**

**94 points | \$48 | 490 cases made | White**

Firmly structured and elegant, this is a demi-sec but supremely food-friendly and balanced, with subtle sweetness deftly offset by savory power and mineral notes. Plush and generous, with flavors of honeycomb, ripe apple and heather that are all tightly hemmed in with plum skin acidity and apple seed tannins. Green almond bitterness and hints of fleur de sel mark the complex finish. Drink now through 2037. From France.—*K.B.*

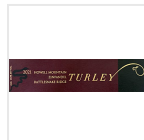


### **JEAN-LOUIS CHAVE SÉLECTION**

**Hermitage White Blanche 2020**

**95 points | \$87 | 35 cases imported | White**

A stunner and extrovert that leads with a core of beautiful fruit -- mango, peach and melon -- polished with just the right touch of salted brioche on a round, lush palate. Supremely harmonious and mineral-driven, with crushed stone lining the finish, which persists. Marsanne and Roussanne. Drink now through 2030. From France.—*K.B.*



### **TURLEY**

**Zinfandel Howell Mountain Rattlesnake Ridge 2021**

**95 points | \$48 | 1,200 cases made | Red**

Plump and polished yet tightly focused, with generous flavors of black cherry and raspberry accented by orange peel and toasty spices. Builds structure toward medium-grained tannins. Drink now through 2034. From California.—*T.F.*



### **BODEGAS Y VIÑEDOS RAÚL PÉREZ**

**Bierzo La Vizcaína Lomas de Valtuille Las Gundiñas 2021**

**94 points | \$41 | 250 cases imported | Red**

Sleek and silky, with a dark mix of black currant, blackberry paste and damson plum fruit wrapping around dense, fine-grained tannins. This is underscored by mineral tar and iron accents, while lovely aromas of mountain herbs, anise, paprika and graphite offer a fragrant overtone that lingers on the fresh, sculpted finish. Best from 2026 through 2036. From Spain.—*A.N.*



### **TRIMBACH**

**Riesling Alsace Frédéric Émile 2017**

**94 points | \$113 | 400 cases imported | White**

This shows the gentility of age, with spiced apple, pear jelly and quince flavors held aloft by lemony acidity and a solid foundation of chalky mineral. Lime zest, fennel seed and cool gravel line the compact, savory finish, which is slightly grippy in feel, giving impressive textural complexity. Drink now through 2032. From France.—*K.B.*



### **CHATEAU DE PLAISANCE**

**Anjou White Le Grande Piece 2022**

**93 points | \$67 | 50 cases imported | White**

Rich, round and delicious, with its firm, well-built structure framing a well of nectarine, chopped apple and warm spices. Honey and salted, toasted brioche notes add plush dimension and are cut by tangy acidity on the defined, juicy finish. Drink now through 2040. From France.—*K.B.*



### **SELBACH-OSTER**

**Riesling Mosel Zeltingen Schlossberg GG 2021**

**93 points | \$44 | 50 cases imported | White**

A richer style, offering honey, lemon thyme and glazed apricot flavors cut with cool minerality. Concentrated and polished, with chamomile and dried chrysanthemum moving through, showing a lashing of verbena oil on the persistent, very pure finish. Excellent. Drink now through 2038. From Germany.—*K.B.*



### **FINCA SOPHENIA**

**Malbec Gualtallary Estate Reserva 2022**

**93 points | \$25 | 2,500 cases imported | Red**

This distinctive red is engagingly aromatic, with tea leaf and spiced berry pastry notes leading to an equally engaging palate, where a trace of river mint runs through the vibrant flavors of fresh cherry and mirabelle plum, while a thread of mineral acidity adds some tension and lengthens the structured finish, echoing back to the core flavors. Drink now through 2038. From Argentina.—*A.R.*



### **TERENZUOLA**

**Vermentino Colli di Luni-Tuscany Fosso di Corsano 2016**

**93 points | \$33 | White**

Offering mature elements of beeswax, honey and pine, this white remains fresh and detailed, like an aged Riesling. As this builds on the palate, smoke, malt and mineral flavors emerge, adding to the complexity and appeal. Shows fine balance and length. Drink now through 2029. From Italy.—*B.S.*

## **Reds for After Dinner**

**Australia, California, France, Italy, Portugal & Spain**



### **ANTINORI**

**Bolgheri Superiore Guado al Tasso 2021**

**97 points | \$175 | 2,000 cases imported | Red**

The pedigree and purity of this red are evident immediately from its black currant, blackberry, pomegranate, violet and wild herb aromas. Saturated with red and black fruit and picking up licorice and mineral elements, this is all about finesse and harmony. Cruises to the long finish, which is tinged with fruit, mineral, cedar, licorice and spice notes. Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc and Merlot. Best from 2026 through 2043. From Italy.—*B.S.*



### **CLOS ST.-JEAN**

**Châteauneuf-du-Pape Deus Ex Machina 2022**

**97 points | \$139 | 80 cases imported | Red**

Sublime and distinctive Châteauneuf that offers waves of complex, concentrated flavor yet never feels heavy. Sanguine tones of bacon fat, grilled herbs, tobacco and cured meat layer atop warm plum and macerated cherry. Creamy with beautiful textural appeal that goes on and on thanks to ultra-fine tannins. Zero rough edges and lots of pleasure and smoky allure. Grenache and Mourvèdre. Best from 2026 through 2040. From France.—*K.B.*



## **PRATS & SYMINGTON**

### **Douro Chryseia 2021**

**97 points | \$120 | 240 cases imported | Red**

A suave, sophisticated red, offering complexity and length in a finely-meshed frame. A core of ripe black plum and mulberry fruit flavor is integrated with refined tannins and appealing accents of violet, thyme, mocha, mineral and star anise that linger on the well-tailored finish. Touriga Nacional and Touriga Franca. Drink now through 2041. Tasted twice, with consistent notes. From Portugal.—*A.N.*



## **SALVESTRIN**

### **Cabernet Sauvignon St. Helena Dr. Crane Vineyard 2021**

**96 points | \$95 | 1,026 cases made | Red**

This restrained, mineral-inflected version is sleek and pure, with cassis, bitter plum and black cherry puree notes streaked with alder, savory and iron through the fine-grained and pinpoint finish. A red of precision and focus. Best from 2026 through 2040. From California.—*J.M.*



## **HICKINBOTHAM**

### **Shiraz McLaren Vale Brooks Road Clarendon 2021**

**95 points | \$90 | 324 cases imported | Red**

Powerful, with plenty of verve and polish to the generous flavors of morello cherries in syrup, spiced plum, black currant and juicy blackberry. Accents of bay leaf, sage and rosemary, along with pepper, black tea and licorice notes, linger on the long, velvety finish, backed by a hint of Sichuan pepper. Drink now through 2037. From Australia.—*M.W.*



## **SIRO PACENTI**

### **Brunello di Montalcino Pelagrilli 2019**

**97 points | \$60 | 680 cases imported | Red**

Packed with vivid black cherry, black currant and plum fruit, as well as iron, sanguine and tobacco accents, this red shows some power and tension, but also grace and balance. The lingering aftertaste features bright, ripe fruit and wild herbs. Best from 2027 through 2043. From Italy.—*B.S.*



## **VIÑEDOS DE PÁGANOS**

### **Rioja La Nieta 2021**

**96 points | \$275 | 50 cases imported | Red**

This gorgeous red glides across the palate, delivering a tapestry of flavors including cherry preserves, blackberry paste, tangerine peel, tar, black licorice, tobacco and chai spices, with jasmine accents. Though rich and expansive, this offers a weightless, fine, silky feel, deftly knitting fresh acidity and supple, chalky tannins. Revealing more as it opens in the glass, this is long and focused on the finish. Best from 2026 through 2039. From Spain.—*A.N.*

# Room for Dessert

Italy, France, Portugal & South Africa



## **BADIA A COLTIBUONO**

**Vin Santo del Chianti Classico 2015**

**96 points | \$46 / 500ml | 395 cases imported | Dessert**

A mixture of caramel, dried fig, orange peel, molasses and roasted walnut flavors permeates this lean, intense Vin Santo. Vibrant and mouthwatering on the long aftertaste. Really stays with you. Trebbiano and Malvasia. Drink now through 2040. From Italy.—*B.S.*



## **OREMUS**

**Tokaji Aszú 5 Puttonyos 2017**

**96 points | \$112 / 500ml | 240 cases imported | Dessert**

Ripe pineapple and lychee fruit flavors are buoyed by vivid acidity in this finely balanced dessert wine. Densely woven yet feather-weight texture caresses the palate, carrying additional notes of glazed tangerine, praline, candied ginger and dried papaya, while the long, fragrant finish evokes jasmine, ground cardamom, eucalyptus and incense. Furmint, Hárslevelű, Zéta and Sárga Muskotály. Drink now through 2040. From Hungary.—*A.N.*



## **KLEIN CONSTANTIA**

**Vin de Constance Constantia 2020**

**96 points | \$NA / 500ml | 500 cases imported | Dessert**

A gorgeous dessert wine, with a fine, creamy nappé to the texture as it lightly coats the palate, carrying flavors of ripe apricot, passion fruit coulis and candied pink grapefruit peel, with an array of aromatic accents, including bergamot, orange blossoms, warm peach skin, candied ginger, cardamom and tea rose. Vibrant acidity creates a mouthwatering frame, while the panoply of aromas and flavors echo on the finish. Muscat de Frontignan. Drink now through 2039. From South Africa.—*A.N.*



## **QUINTA DO VESUVIO**

**Vintage Port 2022**

**95 points | \$120 | 100 cases imported | Dessert**

This is very stylish, with a beautiful display of black cherry, boysenberry and blackberry puree notes flecked with dried anise and violet. Seamless, with a long, graphite-accented finish that flows wonderfully. Touriga Nacional, Touriga Franca, Alicante Bouschet and Tinta Amarela. Best from 2040 through 2060. From Portugal.—*J.M.*

VALUE PICK OF

THE WEEK  
FRANCE



**CHÂTEAU LA VIEILLE CURE**

**Fronsac 2022**

**93 points | \$35 | 9,000 cases made | Red**

**Tasting Note:**

This is fleshy and seductive in feel, with gently mulled black currant and blackberry fruit holding sway over savory, smoldering charcoal, just-tilled humus and worn cedar notes on the finish. Shows range and character. Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon. Best from 2026 through 2035. —*J.M.*



# Hot Wines

These are the most exciting discoveries from our editors' most recent tastings, published exclusively in Wine Spectator Insider. They are high-scoring wines from around the world that may be difficult to find, but are worth seeking out.

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## Italy, Chile, France & Washington



**IPSUS**

**Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2020**

**96 points | \$395 | Red**

### Italy

A core of cherry and raspberry fruit is framed by vanilla and resin notes in this intense red. Floral, iron and tobacco accents add depth and complexity, while the supple texture eventually gives way to dense tannins on the long aftertaste. Rides a line between power and elegance. The terrific length reveals its potential. Best from 2026 through 2042. From Italy.—*B.S.*



**VINCENT LATOUR**

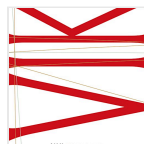
**Meursault Perrières 2022**

**95 points | \$220 | 70 cases imported |**

**White**

### France

You can smell the stone dust in this racy white, along with lemon oil and white flowers. Intense and oily, with a chalky feel as this winds down on the superb aftertaste of lemon, herb, baking spice and mineral notes. Best from 2026 through 2038. From France.—*B.S.*



**VIK**

**Millahue 2021**

**95 points | \$149 | 600 cases imported | Red**

### Chile

Refined and elegant, but with structure and density underneath. Offers fresh and persistent aromas of graphite, wild thyme and brambly raspberry that fold over onto the palate, where chocolate-covered cherry, cassis and fresh tobacco chime in. Everything is buoyed by fresh, mineral acidity that drives the flavors on the finish around well-formed tannins and a lingering berry note. Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon. Best from 2026 through 2036. From Chile.—*A.R.*



**QUILCEDA CREEK**

**Cabernet Sauvignon Columbia Valley  
2021**

**95 points | \$250 | 5,460 cases made | Red**

### United States

Polished and well-proportioned, with medium-bodied flavors of blackberry and cherry that take on accents of bitter mocha and bell pepper before finishing with medium-grained tannins. Drink now through 2034. From Washington.—*T.F.*

Wine Spectator magazine is read by more than 3 million people around the world. Our digital publications, apps and events extend this global reach to more than 6 million wine lovers.

Our tasting staff includes 15 tasters and tasting coordinators, who work together to review more than 16,000 wines each year; more than 400,000 reviews are currently available in our online database.

We always review wines in independent blind tastings. This is your guarantee that our reviews are fair and objective, and that a wine's reputation and price do not influence its score. Each taster covers specific wines and regions; their initials are appended to their reviews. Our credibility is built on their expertise and independence.

### Wine Spectator's 100-Point Scale

**95 - 100 Classic**

**80 - 84 Good**

**90 - 94 Outstanding**

**75 - 79 Mediocre**

**85 - 89 Very Good**

**50 - 74 Not  
Recommended**

### Our Editorial Team

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Joined Wine Spectator in 1993. Tasting beats: Burgundy, Piedmont, Tuscany

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